



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)

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Serial No.: 08/908,265)

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For: SOFT ERRORS HANDLING IN)
EEPROM DEVICES)

Group Art Unit: 2786

San Francisco, California

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please preliminarily amend the above-identified application by adding the following

new claims:

--35. A memory device comprising:

a plurality of memory cells, each of which is readable by application of a read voltage;

and

means for determining a likelihood that the memory device has a degraded state by applying each of a plurality of read voltages to a terminal of a first cell of the plurality of memory cells to generate a plurality of read results.

36. The memory device of claim 35, wherein a group of the plurality of memory cells are arranged in a row that includes the cell, the memory device further comprising means for rewriting a previously stored value into each of the group of memory cells when the means for determining determines that the first cell has a degraded state.

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